

THE PACIFIC  
Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH - EDITOR.

THURSDAY JANUARY 16.

Tomorrow is the most fateful date in the modern chronology of these islands.

Every Asiatic in a trade or clerkship leaves Hawaii of the help of one white man in making this Territory American.

The burglar alarm has never been a frill of Honolulu house-furnishing, but the chances are that there will soon be a market for it.

It is hard to say how the president of the Iwilei Investment Company can look his moral, injunction-mongering brother in the face.

Historian MacLay being out of a job, it is up to Admiral Sampson to do something for him out of that fortune in shore-leave prize money.

Local interest in Marconi's long-distance scheme will be increased by the news that he proposes to send messages 2000 miles for one cent a word.

Good for Judge Wilcox. Yesterday he gave six Porto Ricans three months apiece. This is a good beginning towards some useful severity.

The ministers and others interested should not feel in well-doing. Iwilei brother-owners should be made to feel that their kind of property does not pay, whatever the financial return on the investment may be.

Since the nuisance of running water reappears in Merchant street, from the overflow on public property, it might not be a bad idea for the Superintendent of Public Works to consider connecting Honolulu with the sewer, just as private owners must connect.

The Missouri W. C. T. U. protested against baptizing with wine the new battleship named after that State. This is a queer wrinkle of reform. If the bottle was not smashed on the bow of the new ship somebody would have drunk its contents. Which course should temperance reformers prefer?

There is a distinct flavor of stewed veal in the Bulletin's apotheosis of Sewall, touching his "high standing in national councils." People lately from Washington report that Mr. Sewall stands high only in the sense of the man whose experience with his neighbor's boot prompted him, for some time thereafter, to eat off the mantel piece.

The new direct line to the Philippines, the vessels of which are expected to start in the early summer, will keep up Honolulu's present quota of mail service and perhaps improve upon it. As the ships will not take soldier passengers, other vessels, under private contract, must be requisitioned. So, on the whole, Honolulu, which is likely to be a port of call, may be served better than it is under the transport system.

By the recent death of Governor Rogers (Populist) the Republicans come into full control of the State of Washington. Governor Rogers expired with his party, the Populist organization succumbing at about the same date. Good times have killed many dangerous causes, but none that did more to threaten the welfare of the country than the party of which Gov. Rogers was an honest but misguided leader.

Mr. Bryan has cleaned up a profit of \$40,000 from the first year of the Commemorative. He would have only got \$10,000 more cash income by being President. Such a showing is unusual in the national industry of starting papers, but Mr. Bryan is an unusual man. The sum named is larger, in all probability, than the net returns to Horace Greeley of any ten years' service on the New York Tribune. Greeley was nearly a bankrupt when he died, but Bryan bids fairly to round out his journalistic career as a plutocrat.

No man has filled the welkin with more noise during the past few years than Senator "Russell"—real name unknown. The burden of his lay has been the unholy greed of the "sugarocracy" to hold all the offices. Yet here we find the Senator holding two, which is contrary to law, and refusing to give up either. This probably shows the effect of living in a place hemmed in by sugar cane. Imperceptibly but surely the noble reformer, unselfish from birth, has taken the hue of his surroundings and has become an office-seeking octopus.

The Rapid Transit line will soon be at Waikiki, arrangements having been made to push it right along. This service will be a great boon to residents and property-owners there, as the tramcars on the Waikiki line are particularly slow and filthy. We shall look for much development to follow the advent of the electric cars in Waikiki, as it seems probable that the owners of the valuable sea frontage between Diamond and Koko heads will eventually make it an object to the Rapid Transit Company to give them a regular service.

There seems to be a marked discrepancy between the reports of the President and Secretary of the local wireless telegraph company. Yesterday the President, Mr. Cross, said:

When new supplies could not be had, the system began to work poorly until, on Nov. 25, we shut down entirely, no messages getting through after that date.

In Thrum's Annual, issued in December, the Secretary, Mr. Farrington, wrote:

Wireless telegraphy is now in operation between the different islands of the group, transmitting commercial messages with equal accuracy and regularity, if not with equal rapidity, of the regular wire telegraph as generally known.

Evidently the Secretary thought the wireless stock market needed a bull movement.

## WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

The Springfield Republican does a public service by explaining, in a matter-of-fact way, the nature of the wireless telegraph. It says that a certain kind of electricity tends to travel like waves made by dropping a stone in a pond—in all directions. But it travels farthest and with least resistance in those directions where it finds the best conductors for it. Some substances are better conductors than others. Glass and rubber are non-conductors, so-called, as you may see by looking at the rubber covering of wires on the street car system, or the glass insulators on a telegraph pole. Metals, such as iron, steel and copper, are first-class conductors, and that is why wire is used for telegraph and telephone and electric light purposes. Water and the earth are conductors of electricity, and so is the atmosphere. When Benjamin Franklin, by his famous experiment with the kite, proved that lightning is nothing but electricity, he also proved that the atmosphere is a conductor, for a bolt of lightning may travel many miles before striking the earth. More space, finally, is a conductor of electricity, as you can prove by passing a current through a vacuum.

As soon as one comprehends that electrical waves can move in space without the conventional wire conductors, it is evident that the question of telegraphy with wires or without wires must depend largely upon the transmitting and receiving apparatus. Wires hitherto have been used because, with the apparatus available for sending and receiving electric currents, they have afforded the best results; indeed, for considerable distances they afforded the only results that could be depended upon. Even with wire as a conductor, far more delicate receiving instruments have to be used on an Atlantic cable than on a circuit between Springfield and Buffalo. Now Marconi is by no means the first one to experiment with wireless telegraphy. Many men have been working at the problem for years. And essentially their problem has been to perfect apparatus at one end which would generate electric waves strong enough to travel long distances, with mere space as the conductor, and apparatus at the other end sensitive enough to receive and record those waves.

The transmitting and receiving apparatus thus far developed is complicated, and one needs some technical knowledge to understand it. You will reach much about Hertzian waves in this connection. Hertzian waves are waves of electricity. Hertz was a German professor, who died in 1894. He was the first man to prove by experiment that whenever in any circuit electro-magnetic changes are brought about, as when an induction coil is in action, the disturbances are transmitted in all directions, bringing about similar changes in neighboring conductors. His great work was to show that these disturbances are transmitted by means of vibrations of the luminiferous ether (which is assumed by physicists to fill all space), and also to show the character, and measure the velocity of those waves. The wireless telegrapher, therefore, first generates Hertzian waves of electricity into space. Gen. Greely, head of the United States army signal service, in describing the transmitter used by the signal corps in experiments, over two years ago, reported that he used a coil in oil, "energized by a three-quarter horse-power rotary transformer, furnishing 125 volts alternating potential, an arrangement making 'a very powerful and efficient source of Hertzian radiation.'" Marconi used at that time a Ruhmkorff coil. According to present methods, the Hertzian waves are transmitted by the generator through a wire to the top of a high pole, and that is where the jumping-off place is. From the top of the pole, the Hertzian waves are radiated off into space. About one-fifth of a horse-power is necessary to send them sixty miles at sea, and a 1000-mile range, it is said, ought not to require much more than 3½ horse-power, provided the energy can be utilized. To send the waves across the Atlantic, the problem of transmission is a question of propelling force. The Hertzian waves follow the curvature of the earth.

Marconi improved the receiving apparatus by discovering or inventing, what is known as the "coherer," which consists of a ball working on an arm attached to the armature of an electro-magnet in the circuit of the "coherer," or receiver. But that aside, enough has been said to show that this apparatus, both sending and receiving, is highly technical, and difficult to be understood in detail by one who is no electrician, or has never witnessed experiments in wireless telegraphy. Suffice it to say that when Marconi, the other day, in Newfoundland, received the wireless message from the coast of England, he flew a kite in the air, and from the kite was suspended a wire connecting with his receiving instrument. The Hertzian waves had passed over the ocean from the tall pole on the England coast, and had struck the wire on the kite in Newfoundland. The electric vibrations were thus transmitted to Marconi's delicately adjusted receiver, and read by him exactly as they had been sent across 1800 miles of ocean.

Marconi's system uses the atmosphere as a conductor. Nicola Tesla, it is understood, is experimenting on a system that uses the earth as a conductor. It seems safe to predict that science will completely master the field of wireless communication through long distances before many years have passed. Evidently the experimenters are only in the infancy of the art.

## Buddhists in Japan.

According to Shin Bukkyo, a leading Japanese periodical, more than 300 Buddhist journals and reviews are published in that country. It mentions some of them as follows: "One of the most remarkable is the Bukkyo Maishu Shimbun (Buddhist Weekly), which has for its program the reconciliation of the old and the new Buddhism. The Chuo Korum, another widely read publication, discusses not only the Buddhist questions, but also devotes a good deal of space to sociology and political economy. The Myosho has the reputation of being the standard literary review, and its editors and writers are men of high standing in the world of letters."

"I'm glad I'm dead," said the shade of George Washington to the wrath of Benjamin Franklin.  
"Why, my liege?"  
"If I were alive, they might court-martial me for compelling Cornwallis to surrender!"—Town Topics.

## CURRENT COMMENT.

## "Dry" Spots in Kentucky.

"Kentucky makes and consumes a vast deal of whiskey, but there are sections of the State where whiskey drinking is much restricted," remarked a man from there the other day. "In my section one finds local option and in the town of London there are neither saloons nor side doors, where one can buy intoxicants. True, occasionally a man brings a bottle of whiskey to town, and a little moonshine is sold sometimes from the alleys, but as a general proposition the sale of strong drinks is tabooed and our people are perfectly content that the tax on whiskey should remain just what it is."

## For Royal Writing.

Whenever the signature of a king or queen is required in a visitor's book or elsewhere it is customary to provide a new pen, which is not used by the hosts or the other guests unless it be handed them by the royal visitor. Another point of etiquette connected with pens and paper is that a letter to a sovereign is written on thick white paper, on one side only, and is placed in an envelope large enough to contain the letter unfolded.

## Brunton's Queer Declaration.

Sir Thomas Lauder Brunton, of London, a great medical authority, declares that if Mohammed had been properly dosed with bromide of potassium at just the right moment there would never have been any Koran or any Mohammedan religion.

## White Cloud's Preacher Son.

Rev. Charles T. Wright, who is in charge of the Episcopal church work among the Indians at Leech Lake, is a full-blooded Indian. He is the eldest son of the famous Indian chief White Cloud, and as such is the direct head of the Ojibway tribe.

## Morgan's Queer Present.

J. Pierpont Morgan received, on the morning the big railroad consolidation was effected, a mounted bear's tooth from a friend who had been shooting in Canada. As he looked at it he said: "I wonder if it is prophetic."

## Wheeler for the Senate.

At the next session of the Alabama legislature a successor to United States Senator Pettus will be elected and the friends of General "Joe" Wheeler have launched a boom on his behalf.

## Soldiers Who Smoke.

Score one for the pipe. Experiments in the Swiss army have revealed advantages in discipline, cheerfulness and endurance among the soldiers who smoked on the march.

## Another One Who "Has It."

John F. Carroll, who may be the new leader of Tammany Hall, is said to be worth \$5,000,000. Carroll was as poor when a young man as was Croker himself.

Jerrold—Did you ever see such a confirmed pessimist as Van Dauber?  
Harrold—Oh! It's not his fault, you know. He married the first time for love and the second time for money.—Puck.

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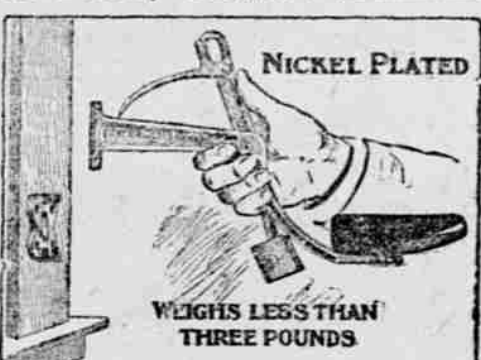
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